

THE  
MESSAGE  
FROM THE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
to the  
LORDS,

By Master *Bulstrode Whitlocke* Esquire,  
and presented to their Lordships by him.

Whereunto is added His Majesties most gracious  
Answer to their Message, February 22, 1642.

*H. Elsinge Cler. do. Com.*



London Printed by *E. Griffin*, 1642.

**A**t a Conference of both Houses in the painted Chamber, Reported againe as followeth by the Lord Roberts to the house of Lords concerning the importance of imbracing and promoting the designe of those Petitioners who desire and hope that the state may be eased of the charge of the Irish Warre, by the undertaking of particular adventurers in the houses of Parliament, London and the rest of the Kingdome.

Master Whitlocke,



He managed the conference, acquainted my Lords, that he was commanded by the house of Commons to present a Vote of that house to your Lordships, which being read, he afterwards proceeded. That whereas your Lordships were pleased to returne thanks lately to the King with the House of Commons for his Maiesties favoure expressed in the passing of two Bills much importing the safety, quiet and content of this Kingdome, and the King had thereupon recommended to both houses the care

of

of *Ireland*, so as these propositions read to your Lordships even with relation to that message, were seasonable. Then he offered by way of pretension, something concerning the tytle, which was, the vote of the Lords and Commons. This he knew your Lordships understood to be but matter of forme, for your Lordships consent was that, which must make it to be so. He then proceeded and offered to your Lordships three motives, each begining and concluding the entertainment of this course.

1 The reducing of *Ireland*.

2 The profit of the King.

3 The ease of the people of *England*.

For the first, *Ireland* was in that condition, as not onely the civill power, which was wont to be the former quarrell, but now even religion, the rooting up of the protestant religion, and extirpation of the English is the quarrell.

The rebels are so audacious as to scandalize the King and Queene; and the question is not now, whether Irish or English, but whether the Protestant or Popish Religion shall stand in that Kingdome; This Rage of theirs stayes not there; they intend to staye this land with the bloud of Protestants.

The life and soule of Religion is now at stake, and he

hee made no doubt every good Protestant will lay downe his life and fortune for the preservation of it.

Then he came to the second motive, which he amplified, first by way of disadvantage, and shewed, what a losse it would be to the King, to be bereaved of that large and fruitfull Island, which was a third part of the Kings dominions; yea a third Kingdome. He then shewed how much the preservation of it conduced to the Kings profit, and how improveable this would be, by keeping that: now was the time to make him a through King there, and to establish the throne, which had bin disputed and tottering in that Realme these 400 yeares.

He then proceeded to the third motive, and said the people of England, have lately undergone many and heaue payments, he meant not those illegal payments, which were a just punishment, to such as would submit to such uniuert charges, but he spake of the levyes by Parliament, the burthen whereof together with the decay of trade, our neighbours in the Country were very sensible, by those propositions read to your Lordships, the poorer sort will be eased, the payments made easie, because voluntary, and thereupon will be many and chearefull givers, who must ever have the honour of a memory to have contributed

tributed to so good a worke; so as where profit is an ingredient with piety and Loyalty, the plaister will be sooner applyed to *Ireland*.

When therefore our duty to God, and the King, may invite to so good a worke, he doubted not of your Lordships concurrence with the House of Commons for the good of that, which was the good of the Kingdome.

Having said thus much in generall he offered some thing to the propositions in particular. That whereas the first Proposition demanded two Millions and halfe of Acres for the undertakers, which might at first sight looke as a great demand to such as know not the extent of that Kingdome which is computed by those who well understood the latitude of it, to containe 14. Millions of Acres, and therefore to take out two Millions and halfe, when two parts of three of that Kingdome are in open rebellion, is not so great a demand, as may at first sight appeare, and the proposition conduceth much to the raising of Rent to the King. He said it was well knowne that the renew of the Exchequer, and Court of wards in *Ireland*, did not exceed the summe of 43000 l. yearly, besides the Customes which your Lordships found not great, except in Monopolies



Monopolies and undue charges, what ever the customs are, they will be by these propositions much advanced, 20 or 30 Thousand pounds a yeare rent will accrew to the Crowne by the reservations in them exprest, besides 7 Millions and halfe of Acres, over and above the two Millions and halfe desired in the propositions left to the Kings disposal.

The other propositions which are for the manner of bringing in of the money are very necessary, nothing being of more consequence then to dispatch this warre.

He observed out of Livy, that the Romans made their warres great and short, some they finish within 6, some within 10, other within 20 dayes, as with the Samnites, Latins, &c. He did not mention this, as though it were feisable for us to conclude this warre in so short a time, but onely to prove by the Actions of that great State, that nothing is more advantageous to a State, then the speedy dispatch of a warre, and he hopes that if this money comes in, the warre of Ireland might be brought to a short issue: he added that he remembered with griefe the former obstructions for Ireland, but he now hopeth by the King and your Lordships concurrences, that delays will be turned into dispatches, and this was necessary  
because

because forragine Princes though now otherwise imployed, will be a wakened by a lasting warre, to take care of our affaires. He observeth the course of *Ireland*s first plantation, to suite much to this propounded.

King *William* the first, gave leave to 12 Knights to goe into *Wales* to get what they could and to plant themselves there, from those descended *Richard* the strong bow, first Earle of *Pembrooke*, who made the first impression in that Kingdome.

Of which *Geraldus Cambrensis* saith, that it should be maintain'd *Multis cadibus, crebris Conflictibus multaque certamine*, he hopeth the course now in hand will give a period to that Conquest, and this prophesie, and that those intended plantations may be as prosperous to state, as the former to gaine that Kingdome.

Wherefore this worke being so full of piety, honour, and charity, none shall need to speake for it, the workes speake for it selfe. And so delivering the vote of that house to your Lordships he concluded the Conference.

THE

**His Majesties most gracious Answer**  
to the Message of the House of Commons  
to the Lords.

**H**is Majesty being very glad to receive any proposition that may repaire the calamitie of his distressed Kingdome of Ireland, especially when it may bewishans burthen or Imposition, and for the ease of his good Subjects of this Kingdome, hath graciously considered the exorture made by both Houses of Parliament to that purpose, and returns this answer.

That as he hath offered and is still ready to venture his owne Royall person for the recovery of that Kingdome, if his Parliament shall advise him therunto, for he will not deny to contribute any other assistance he can to that service in parting with any profit or advantage of his owne there, and therefore relying upon the wisdom of his Parliament doth consent to every proposition now made to him without taking time to examine whether this course may not recede the reducing of that Kingdome by exasperating the Rebels and rendering them desperate of being received into grace. If they shall returne to their obedience, and his Majesty will be ready to give his Royall Assent as to all such Bills as shall be tendered unto him by his Parliament to the Confirmation of every particular of this proposition, &c.

**H. ELSYNGE,**  
Cler. Parl. D. Com.



